## Message Text

## CONFIDENTIAL

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R 291540Z MAR 77 FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS TO SECSTATE WASHDC 170 INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI USMISSION USUN NEW YORK AMCONSUL IBADAN AMCONSUL KADUNA

CONFIDENTIAL LAGOS 3520

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR, PORG

 $\hbox{SUJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: NON-ALIGNED COORDINATING COMMITTEE}$ 

FOREIGN MINISTER'S MEETING, NEW DELHI, APRIL 6-11

REF: STATE 64158

1. RATHER THAN CONTINUE WAIT FOR OPPORTUNITY MEET WITH DIRECTOR MEA'S INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION DEPARTMENT, POLCOUNS CALLED ON HIS DEPUTY ZUBAIRU THIS MORNING TO MAKA DEMARCHE USING TALKING POINTS PARA 12 REFTEL. MEETING WAS NOT COMPLETELY SATISFACTORY AND CONSUSTED PRIMARILY OF MONOLOGUE ON OUR PART TO WHICH ZUBAIRU LISTENED. HE DID, HOWEVER, EXHIBIT MORE THAN PASSING INTEREST IN OUTCOME OF PUERTO RICAN ELECTION ACD PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT ON SEEKING MUTUAL MILITARY RESTRAINT WITH SOVIET UNION IN INDIAN OCEAN.

2. ZUBAIRU PROMISED BRIEF NIGERIAN DELEGATION TO NON-ALIGNED COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING ON SUBSTANCE OF TODAY'S COVERSATION. WE WILL CONTINUE SEEK OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THIS SUBJECT WITH HEAD OF DEPARTMENT, OR AT LEAST CONFIRM HE HAS BEEN MADE AWARE CONFIDENTIAL

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OF OUR DEMARCHE.

3. NIGERIAN DELEGATION TO NEW DELHI MEET WILL BE HEADED BY COMMISSIONER EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, BRIDGADIER JOSEPH N. GARBA. ACCORDING MEA, DIRECTOR MINISTRY'S INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION DEPARTMENT, AMBASSADOR H.B. MUSA, AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR MINISTRY'S ECONOMIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT, OLUFEMI ANI, WILL COMPLETE THE

DELEGATION. ALL THREE GENTLEMEN ARE APPROACHABLE AND KNOWN BY EMBASSY OFFICERS. THE COMMISSIONER PROBABLY HOLDS MOST BALANCED VIEWS OF THE THREE AND WILL TEND TO GIVE U.S. POSITIONS A FAIR HEARING. FOR EXAMPLE, AT LAST YEAR'S COLOMBO MEETING, HE WAS PROUD OF FACT HE AND NIGERIAN DELEGATION RESISTED PRESSURES TO CO-SPONSOR HOSTILE RESOLUTION ON PUERTO RICO, MUSA TENDS TO GO ALONG WITH MAJORITY, EXPLAINING AFTERWARD THAT NIGERIA CANNOT BE SEEN TO BE SUPPORTING THE WEST AGAINST MAJORITY OF NON-ALIGNED EVEN THOUGH NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT MIGHT NOT AGREE WITH A PARTICULAR DECISION. ANI IS CAPABLE TECHNOCRAT, WHO HAS BEEN OPENLY CRITICAL OF U.S. POSITION AT CIEC.

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